

# What's Inside

Recycling on the Hill

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Rabbits Socialize in North Beach

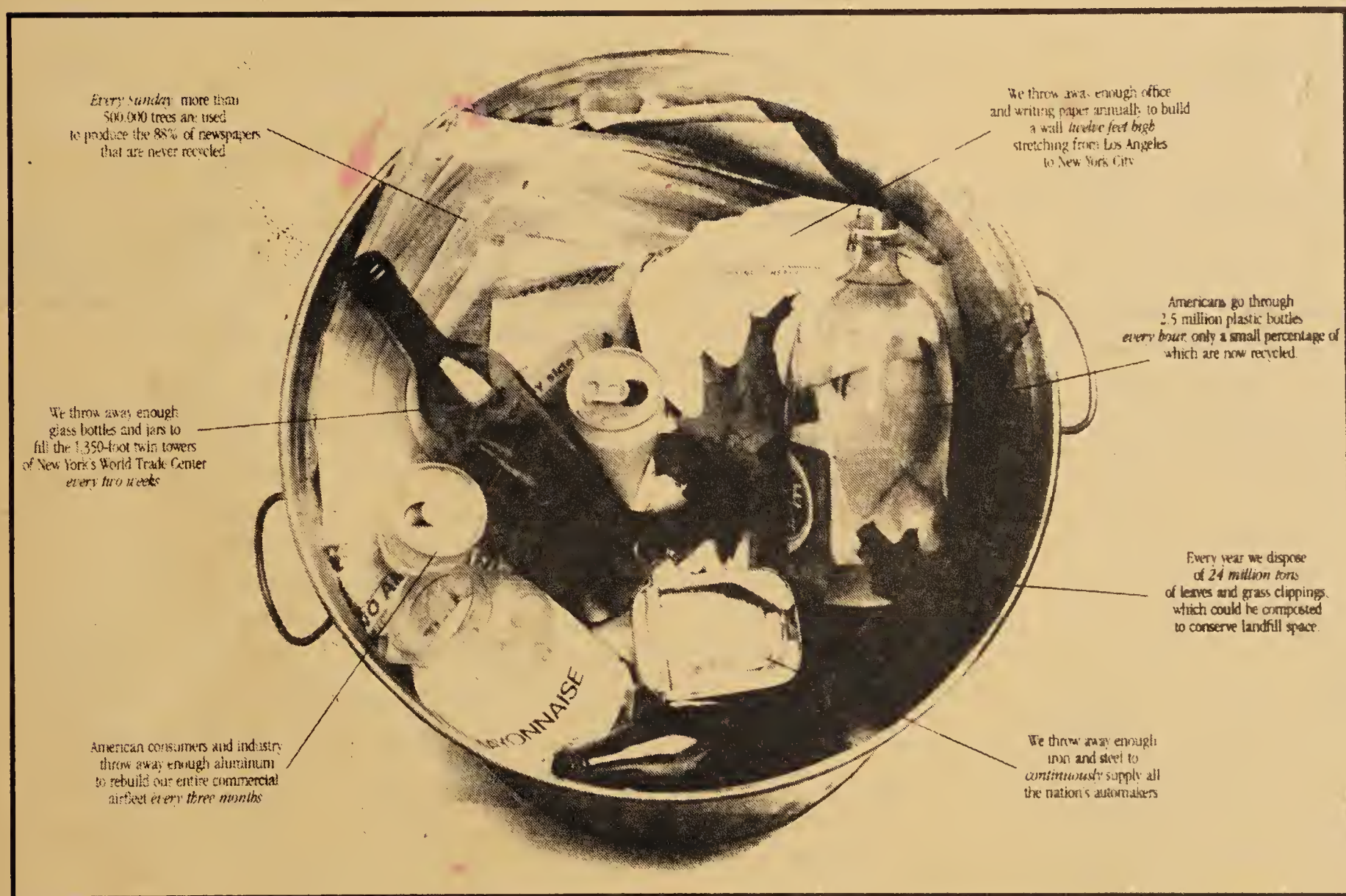
June, 1989

No. 108



## TELEGRAPH HILL SEMAPHORE

*Publication of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers*



Every Sunday, more than 500,000 trees are used to produce the 88% of newspapers that are never recycled.

We throw away enough office and writing paper annually to build a wall twelve feet high stretching from Los Angeles to New York City.

Americans go through 2.5 million plastic bottles every hour, only a small percentage of which are now recycled.

We throw away enough glass bottles and jars to fill the 1,350-foot twin towers of New York's World Trade Center every two weeks.

Every year we dispose of 24 million tons of leaves and grass clippings, which could be composted to conserve landfill space.

American consumers and industry throw away enough aluminum to rebuild our entire commercial air fleet every three months.

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Courtesy Environmental Defense Fund



## 1989 Telegraph Hill Dwellers Board of Directors

### 1989 Officers

President	Rod Freebairn-Smith	460 Vallejo	398-4094
Vice President	Sheryl Hamlin	330 Chestnut	421-2452
Rec. Secretary	Kathleen Cannon	1207 Montgomery	956-0259
Corresp. Sec.	Pat Lorentzen	435 Green	781-0456
Treasurer	Maud Hallin	463B Greenwich	781-3761
Finan. Sec.	Catherine Donnelly	435 Green	986-0472
Historian	Rhoda Robinson	276 Francisco	781-5221
Semaphore Editor	Cheryl Bentley	218 Union	392-4081

### Directors 1989-1990

June Fraps	1941 Stockton	392-1187
Deborah Holley	444 Lombard	392-3569
Robert Morrill	576 Greenwich	982-4850
Virginia Sletteland	517 Lombard	781-4352

### Directors 1989-1991

Gerry Crowley	1808 Grant	781-4201
Peter Hadiaris	566 Vallejo	391-5057
Jeanne Milligan	486 Union	989-0494
Jean VanDusen	23 Midway	362-3607

### Ex Officio

Paul Gottlober	365 Green	956-7848
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### President's Message

The Hill Dweller's fiscal year began in April with the optimism of Spring. We all thank outgoing President Paul Gottlober for two years of constant service to the Hill. Has anyone previously gone after the quality of our streets, the litter, garbage and cleanliness issue as vigorously as Paul and Jim Miller? We owe them our continuing efforts to closely monitor the neighborhood outdoor places we enjoy. Similarly, outgoing Board Member Bart Miller deserves our gratitude. Though moving to the Waterfront Committee, he continues to chase garbage-trailing culprits using the City's new reporting program. Hill Dwellers who have written the required letters to document garbage offenses are thanked and commended.

We need your assistance in the great clean-up THD is attempting. Phone me at 398-4094 if you have an urge to help in this program with its gratifying and visible rewards.

1989 THD will lose Deborah Holley, Chairwoman of our Planning and Zoning Committee. Deborah and husband Scott Emblidge are moving to a new home in another neighborhood. What continuity and level headed analysis she has given us over so many years! Surviving without Deborah means expanding her committee's membership and training new members in the City's project review intricacies. Now is your chance to work on that most important THD function, the review of development proposals affecting our neighborhood. Please call our new Chairwoman, Jean Van Dusen at 781-3300 if you have skills to contribute in design, planning, environmental assessments and legal matters,



or just a keen interest in the “fit” of things into our district.

In the year ahead we expect to enjoy greater participation from our membership, contributions from the extraordinary breadth of expertise living on this hill. THD will continue its present services to the neighborhood, and will accomplish even more this year if its hard working Officers and Board Members receive wider participation and help from you out there. Specific events and studies coming up where your talents will be welcomed include:

**GRANT AVENUE FAIR**

**Contact:** Kitty Donnelly at 986 0472

**PLANNING & ZONING**

**Contact:** Jean VanDusen at 781 3300

**WATERFRONT**

**Contact:** Woody Stockwell at 781 1526

**SOCIAL EVENTS**

**Contact:** Gerry Crowley at 445 5547

**TREE PLANTING**

**Contact:** Rob Morrill at 982 4850

## **Coping with the Planet's Problems**

Our earth is in bad shape. Rain forests are disappearing. Animals are becoming extinct. Oceans are belching up our own wastes.

Out of concern for our ailing planet, this issue of the Semaphore will explore ways in which we as citizens of Telegraph Hill can help.

In addition, THD is starting a committee to organize a recycling program. For starters the committee would arrange for a city truck to stop on the Hill monthly to collect residents' recyclable items and also educate on the importance of recycling. We need enthusiastic environmentalists to volunteer. Please call Rod Freebairn-Smith at 398-4094.

The city is starting a curbside recycling program which is estimated to reach the Hill by late 1990. In the meantime, check the Semaphore for recycling tips, or call the SF Recycling Program at 554-6198.

## **Do We Want To Be Buried In Garbage?**

At the current rate of waste generation, San Francisco's landfill will be full by the year 2005. Recycling will help extend the life of our landfill, but there's more that we can do.

Each one of us disposes about five pounds of garbage every day. Reducing the amount we throw away is the first step toward reducing the amount of garbage that is landfilled.

### **Ways you can reduce.**

- Shop carefully. Americans throw away one-third of the food they buy in the grocery store.
- Don't use a bag if you are only buying one item or if you will be consuming or using the item as soon as you leave the store.
- Buy non-perishable products in large quantities or in bulk. One large container creates less garbage than several smaller ones.
- Do not buy products that are overpackaged. Extra packaging is often only used to make a product more attractive. Packaging represents about 30 percent of our country's garbage.
- Use a coffee mug at work instead of a Styrofoam cup.
- Repair broken appliances instead of throwing them away and buying new ones.

### *San Francisco Recycling Guide*

*Glass produced from recycled glass instead of raw material reduces related air pollution by 20 percent and water pollution by 50 percent.*

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## The One That Got Away

We have been watching them go down, fold up, vanish. One by one, the neighborhood businesses that we have depended upon — the places where we eat and shop and get things fixed — have been closing. Some have gone quietly, and some have shut up shop with a bang.

In quick succession we lost Luigi's, Vanessi's and Enrico's. Prior to these severe losses there was the greatly regretted departure of Gloria Delicatessen and the tragic demise of Nordica Scandinavian Furnishings *and* its owner Henrik Jorgensen, to name just two of the grand old North Beach institutions brought down by intolerable rent increases.

Almost every block has one or more empty storefronts owing to unbridled greed.

But amongst all the casualties we have A Survivor! Hallelujah!

In a singular feat Joe Jachetta and his Parkview Beauty Salon, a fixture at the corner of Union and Powell for 31 years, found a new spot in which to serve his affectionate customers and friends, and to have fun.

Parkview never has been just a typical hair store. It always has been a small-town-friendly, have-a-cup-of-coffee type gathering place, a place to catch up on neighborhood news. Parkview still radiates the old-time Italian/Bohemian spirit which prevailed in North Beach for decades. It is a reflection of the congeniality and hospitality of Joe Jachetta.

But it was a down-to-the-wire crisis. For years Parkview absorbed rent increase after rent increase. Joe and his staff worked harder and longer hours. Joe kept adding to his services to try to keep up with the spiralling cost of renting that prime corner. Parkview even became a Coit Cleaners outlet along with the cutting

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and styling of hair.

The constant threat of higher and higher rent was taking the fun out of running Parkview, and the insecurity about being able to stay in business was taking its toll on Joe's health.

He was sure there was no other suitable location nearby with a reasonable rent. He decided to retire. All of his customers and friends were devastated.

Salvation did not come on a galloping white charger. It came from Dennis Denlinger, who has been a hairdresser at Parkview for 17 years. He told Joe that he had seen a FOR RENT sign on the window of the space on Union Street next to Mario's Bohemian Cigar Store.

Not only was this small spot close by (and right off Washington Square), but the rent was fair. The deal was made in a jiffy.

A grateful sigh of relief was heard up and down Union Street.

The physical move was accomplished with what Joe calls "kid power." Joe and his wife Lucy have six grown sons and daughters. They are Linda, John, Jim, Laura, Stephanie and Rossana. The spouses pitched in, too.

Despite the reduction in floor space from 1200 square feet to 600, Parkview was transplanted without a hitch. As Joe put it, "I turned the key in the old place on Saturday night, and Tuesday morning put a new key in a lock a block away."

All the trappings of a beauty shop in business for 41 years were relocated in two days, and the dryers and other equipment fit into the nooks as if planned by a designer.

"My kids built me a playhouse," Joe said proudly.

Joe is North Beach all the way. He was born on Vallejo Street. His father was born on Varennes. His mother was born on Broadway. His maternal grandparents were from Genoa, and his father's family were Calabrese.

His grandfather was one of the first cooks at Fior d'Italia, when it was on Broadway. Family weddings have been at Sts. Peter and Paul,

and Joe, who has a beautiful voice, has sung at the ceremonies.

Joe doesn't speak ill of anyone (even threatening landlords), but he talks with the most affection of his late mother. Because she had the advantage of being born in this country, she helped the people who came over from Italy, with immigration papers and the problems of settling in a new land. If a neighbor was ill, it was she who went to his aid. "She took care of the whole block," Joe remembers. She was the driving force behind the PTA at Francisco Middle School and was president of the Catholic Ladies Aid at St. Francis of Assisi.

"She had a welfare system of her own," Joe said. He recalls fondly that when she was in the hospital for 16 months and her fellow patients were discouraged, she would say to the women: "My son will do your hair!"

Joe opened Parkview in 1948 on Powell Street next door to the old Palace Theater, now Pagoda. He had learned hairdressing at the California Beauty School on the G.I. Bill of Rights. The move to 701 Union Street occurred in 1958.

The tradition of bringing goodies to Parkview continues at the new site. There is always a platter of sweet rolls or doughnuts or a frittata or a cake that a customer will have brought for everyone.

And at the grand opening March 4th so many people came carrying gifts of food, such as smoked salmon and bagels and an eggplant dish and stuffed veal and cookies, that it was a Biblical loaves and fishes situation. As a plate emptied it would be replaced by another. The champagne flowed freely all day.

The merriment continues on a daily basis. The same talented people still work for Joe. They are like family, he said. There is no more talk of retiring. As Joe put it, "If I had had to retire, I would have to find another place to have fun."

*June A. Osterberg*



## Abraca Dabra

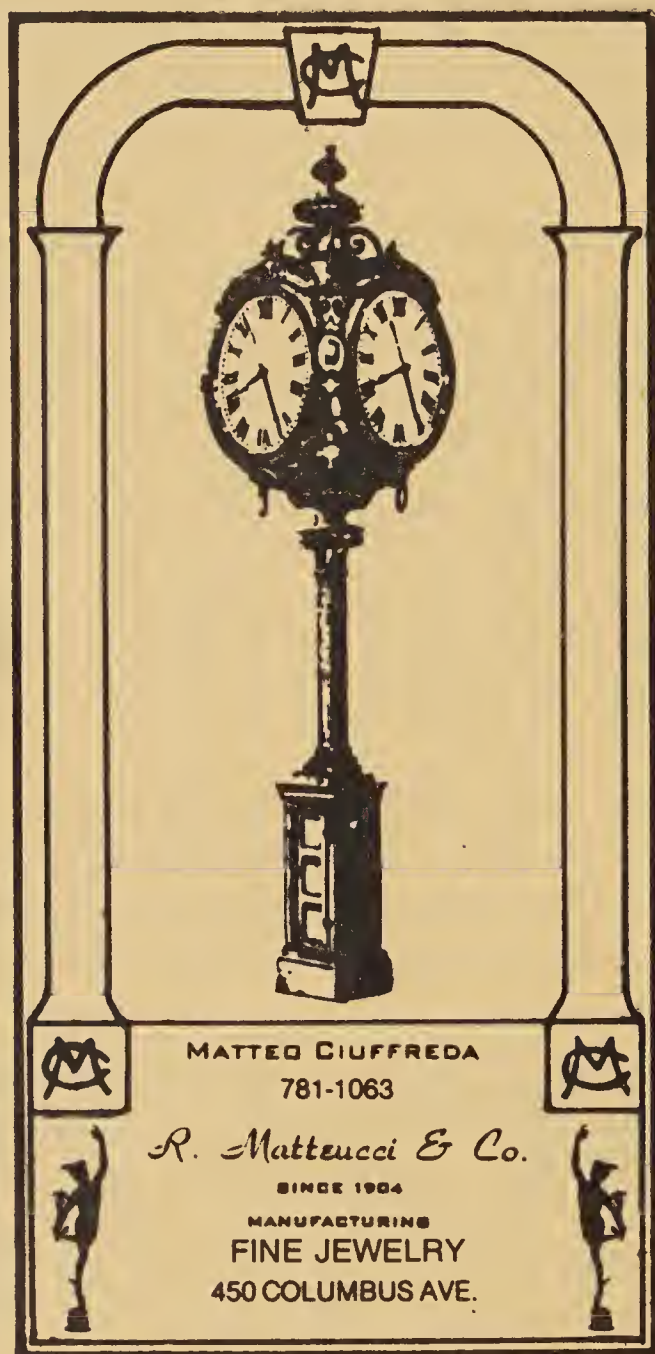
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## Rick, Fred and PJ

He sits alone in Vesuvios, quietly reading a newspaper and sipping a soft drink. A loner, Rick talks little unless there is something to say.

Rick's companion, Fred, sits closer to the door, in his favorite window seat. Not much of a reader, he is content to scrunch down among the piles of publications and is even more silent than Rick. Fred's coat is shiny black; he has large, lustrous, brown-black eyes, a constantly twitching nose, and long ears which alternate between being erect and laid back.

There is nothing unusual about going to a bar with a friend, but Rick's companion is a New Zealand hare.

In California since 1961, Rick has worked as a cook, clerk, home care, cleaned bars, driven a cab, been a bagel baker, warehouseman, and in production for a games company. He does not smoke nor drink nor counsel others. Rick is articulate and enjoys writing psycho fiction on imaginative subjects. He has known difficult times and pets have surely helped him through.

Rick's interest in rabbits began about three years ago. Earlier he had raised and trained two Siamese cats which perched on his shoulders as he took walks with them. When he could no longer keep the cats, the SPCA found immediate homes for them. As soon as he could once again have a pet, he visited an Alameda rabbit breeder. A six-month-old male rabbit walked up Rick's arm, sat in his elbow and yawned, most unusual behavior for a bunny. That did it. Rick took the young rabbit home in the cab he drove at the time, and Boris became the first taxi rabbit.

Boris was an incurable extrovert. He loved to ride in the cab, scampered around the front seat, in Rick's lap; and if the passengers were slow to notice him, Boris would hoist himself up on the middle armrest so that they could



not overlook him. Passengers in the back seat enjoyed his visits with them.

Rick took Boris everywhere, and Vesuvios was a favorite place. Normally, animals are not permitted in bars, but Vesuvio's owner declared Rick and Boris to be regulars. As Rick was served his beverage, Boris was served Bunny Water in a large shot glass. Everyone enjoyed Boris for more than a year.

One day Rick cradled Boris in his arms as they took a walk. They passed by a construction site where the very loud explosive sound of an air drill caused Boris to leap in fright from his arms. Sadly, his back was broken and Boris had to be put to sleep.

To assuage the void left by Boris, Rick visited the SPCA and found Fred, an eight-month-old New Zealand hare whose owner had to give him up. Also there was a male dwarf bunny who had been rescued from the wild. He was very small, had a squirrel-colored coat, alert bright eyes, and short straight ears. Rick took Fred home but had to wait a quarantine period before he could adopt the dwarf.

Home at last, he was named Peter Joshua Bunny (PJ). At one and one-half pounds, PJ was wildly mischievous and sometimes vicious. He bit Rick, Fred and anyone else, fought and badly injured Fred who was much larger. When Fred had had enough of this behavior, he chased and bit PJ who wisely changed his disposition as Fred, now an adult hare, weighed 20 pounds. PJ has mellowed, no longer bites. Unlike Fred, he prefers to keep his distance from admirers, but is very affectionate with Rick.

Rick, Fred and PJ share a hotel room in North Beach and when Rick is away this rabbit odd couple groom and playfully chase each other, and sleep together on a pile of clothes or a rug.

Upon arriving a Vesuvios, Rick and Fred are often at different tables. Fred goes at once to his window seat. Often the regular customers play cards or chess at the table in front of Fred's window. He doesn't mind sharing, indeed, he may hop down the bench, check out the visitor by sitting

nearby for a few minutes. Soon he is back in the window, ears back, body scrunched up into asculptural, black shape. He feels secure and naps with eyes at half mast.

Sometimes friends come by with treats, but his affections are not easily won...unless, of course, you have brought bok choy, his favorite vegetable. If not, you may open your bag of goodies, leave it near his nose and he will get to it at the proper time. A good scratch on the head and under his chin are tolerated--well, yes,--enjoyed, but do not attempt with treats to dislodge him from his station at the window. It won't work.

Rabbits are immensely curious and investigate everything. Tiny PJ could never be found if allowed out of Rick's lap while in Vesuvios.

Rick states that just about everyone like rabbits. They remind people of happy times with childhood pets when they or a relative had a rabbit. Occasionally, someone will mention rabbits raised for food. This is unpleasant for a rabbit lover to hear, even knowing they are a high protein source.

When you are in North Beach, maybe you will see a man walking with a pair of tiny, furry ears and two very bright eyes peering out of his jacket pocket. Or, if you pass by Vesuvios, about 7:30 in the evening, look in the corner of the window for two black ears. You have seen Rick and his rabbits, and your day will have been enriched.

*Helen Von Ammon*

## **We Need Teachers!**

Public Schools can always use a hand. As part of a THD outreach program, Rod Freebairn-Smith has contacted Garfield, our neighborhood school, to offer THD's help. Rod is looking for teachers and lovers of kids to volunteer for a committee to work with Garfield. The range of possible projects is immense and rewards enormous. Call Rod at 398-4094 to volunteer.

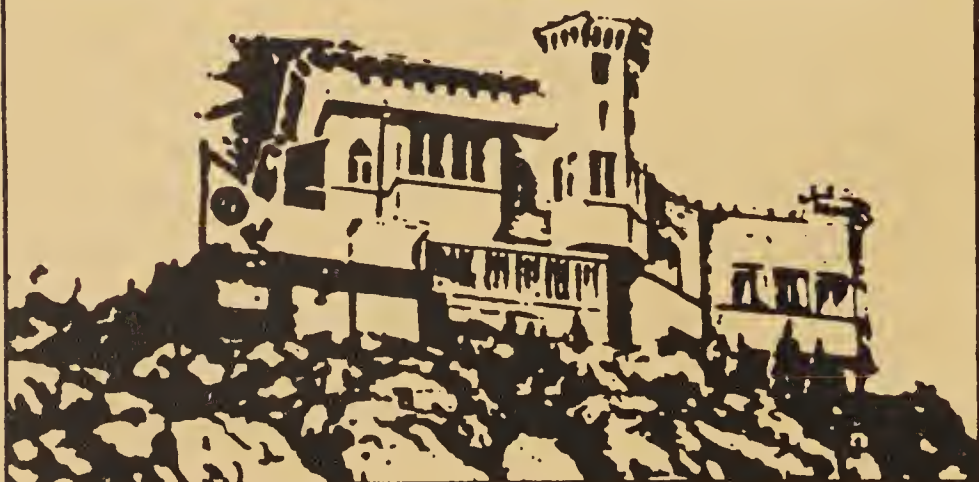


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## Four new members join the THD Board.

Peter Hadiaris brings planning and zoning interests to the Board. It is a field which dovetails nicely with his law practice, much of which involves real estate. In addition, Peter has served on the Social Committee.

Kathleen Cannon is serving her second stint on the THD board. She is the new recording secretary. Previously she edited the Semaphore for a year. In addition, Kathleen writes the Planning & Zoning column for the Semaphore.

Information on Jean VanDusen was not available at press time.






*New Board Members Kathleen Cannon, Peter Hadiaris, and Gerry Crowley. Jean VanDusen is not pictured.*

## Shopping with Less Waste

Shopping environmentally means buying products whose use and/or disposal will not have a negative impact on our environment.

Avoid plastic products and packaging. Most plastics are difficult to recycle. Plastics are also very light and have a tendency to blow into our

landscapes and water, causing danger to children and animals as well as creating unsightly litter. And since plastics are not biodegradable, they remain in our environment forever.

- Buy products packaged in recyclable glass, aluminum, or paper.
- Choose products that are packaged in paper cartons, not Styrofoam or plastic. Eggs, milk, and laundry detergents can be purchased in paper cartons.
- Look for paperboard packages with grey interiors. They are made from recycled paper.
- Look for the  symbol. It means you are buying a recycled or recyclable product.
- Patronize fast-food establishments that use paper and cardboard, not Styrofoam, to wrap their food.
- If you need a bag at the grocery store, ask for paper bags instead of plastic. Papers are biodegradable, can be used to store your materials for recycling, and are recyclable themselves.

*S. F. Recycling Guide*





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## **Tom Field: A Good Citizen When You Need One**

Tom Field is a rare individual. A long time resident of the Richmond District, Tom is also a businessman in North Beach, where, along with his brother Robert, he owns the beautifully-renovated, historic San Remo Hotel on Mason at Chestnut.

Tom has spent countless hours and energy in helping not only the communities where he lives and works, but other neighborhoods in San Francisco as well.

A champion graffiti fighter, Tom was presented the Mayor Feinstein Graffiti Task Force Award last year. Typically, Tom passed on the award money to community agencies including San Francisco S.A.F.E. Recently, he was appointed to the Advisory Committee to the Graffiti Prevention Program under the auspices of the MUNI Railway.

Tom is active in Police Community Relations both in the Central District and in the Richmond. In 1986, he was the primary organizer of a four block Neighborhood Watch group and was the driving force behind a lengthy year-long struggle with the San Francisco Unified School District. Tom urged the school district to respond to neighborhood concerns for lighting in the George Peabody Elementary School playground. As a result of Tom's tenacity, over 20 lights were replaced to provide lighting for the safety of children and overall crime prevention.

Along with Richmond's Captain Paul Kotta and Lt. John Ballentine and S.A.F.E.'s Pat Bell and Pam Matsuda, Tom is helping to establish a youth peer court in the Richmond District based on an existing, successful one in Danville. In October at S.A.F.E.'s anniversary luncheon, Tom was a recipient of S.A.F.E.'s outstanding community builder award.



When asked what his top priority is these days,, Tom says “renting the San Remo to full capacity. It’s a great, affordable, small residential/tourist hotel. Unfortunately, the reputation it had 10 years ago as something of a flophouse has still to be overcome. It’s a beautiful example of an Italianate Victorian and was funded by A.P. Giannini immediately after the 1906 earthquake as housing for merchant seamen. My brother and I have completely restored it and have filled it with turn-of-the-century antiques.”

Tom Field has proven to be a good citizen who is there when his community needs him.

## Visit Neighborhood Businesses

With the opening of Harvey’s Pet Supply store near the corner of Grant and Union comes a valuable addition to the neighborhood. Harvey carries supplies, toys, and food for our animal friends. If you don’t have an animal, he has gifts for animal lovers.

A few doors down from the pet store is the empty storefront of Departments. It is a poignant reminder that neighborhood businesses often operate on a shoestring and cannot survive without our support.

Stop in and welcome the new pet supply store, and buy all your supplies in our neighborhood.



*Throwing away an aluminum beverage container wastes as much energy as pouring out a soda can half filled with gasoline.*

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## Board of Directors' Report

### March

#### *Motions Passed*

- To reinstate the lapsed insurance liability coverages effective April 1, 1989, bringing the policy dates in line with THD's fiscal year.
- To support the Coalition of San Francisco Neighborhoods by purchasing four tickets at \$35 each to the First Annual Awards Dinner.

#### *Motions Denied*

None

### April

#### *Motions Passed*

- To donate money in Jim Riccarito's name from Jim's memorial fund (approx. \$380), and for THD to match that amount, for trees for the park on the Kearny St. steps.
- That THD support the installation of a marker in Washington Square in honor of Juana Briones, a resident of Powell and Filbert Streets in 1837.
- To contribute \$300 to the Telegraph Neighborhood Center and after a review of the budget consider increasing the contribution.
- To support Russian Hill Neighbors in their demand that the Planning Department inform and obtain the approval of the neighborhood regarding changes to a project in which the developer changed the quality, scale, etc. of the project without notifying the neighborhood.

#### *Motions Denied*

To donate \$750 to Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center.



## Auto Xenophobia

At a recent dinner of the San Francisco Coalition of Neighborhoods, keynote speaker Quentin Kopp reminded the guests that during a 24-hour period the population of San Francisco swells to an excess of 1.2 million people, most of whom arrive in automobiles.

This automobile population is the genesis of traffic thoroughfares such as Pine, Bush, Lombard, 19th Avenue, and Bay where one-way designations and no-left turns have been implemented to benefit transient automobile traffic *at the expense of resident users*.

Recently Supervisor Britt sponsored a proposal to oppose Caltrans' plans to widen I80. The proposed I80 expansion is an unnecessary traffic generator. It also strains the delicate marsh conditions of San Francisco Bay. Residents of Vallejo and beyond who commute to San Francisco should be encouraged to utilize transit rather than private vehicles.

The motion will be heard by the Public Works Committee (Kennedy, Hongisto, Maher) and, if passed the full board. The THD board voted to support Supervisor Britt's proposal.

*S. Hamlin*



*In the United States, almost one ton of solid waste per person is collected annually from residential, commercial, and institutional sources. At the present rate of disposal, about 500 new dumping locations must be found each year.*

*S. F. Recycling Guide*

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## TROY DANIELS

## PHOTOGRAPHY

415 391 8089



# New Member Washington Sq

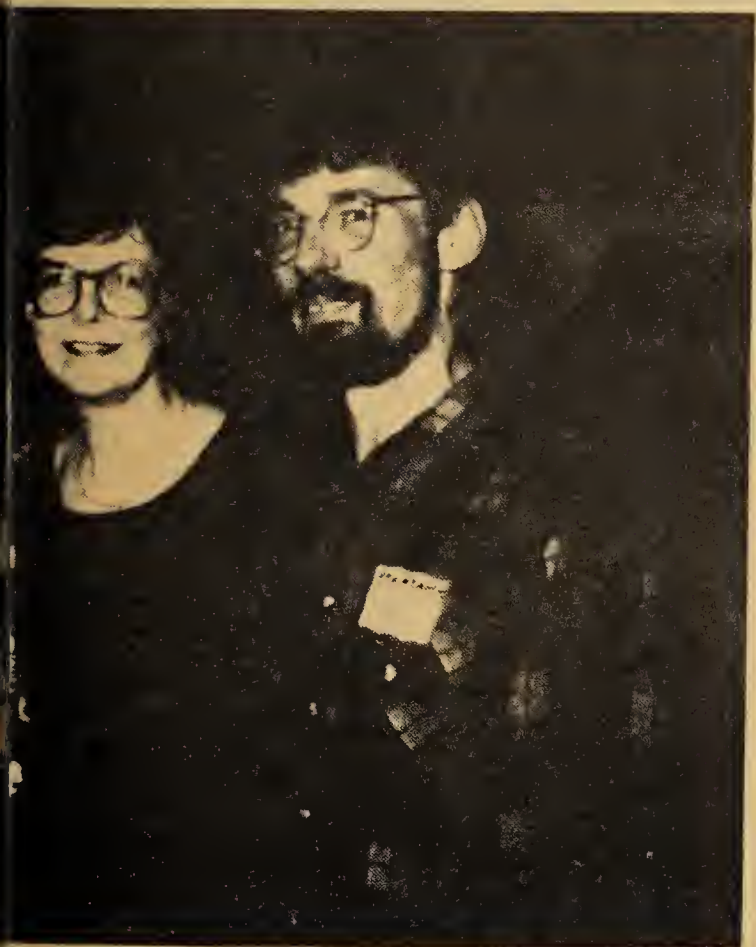
*Photos by*





# Cocktail Party are Bar & Grill

oy Daniels





## Business News & Changes

Newcomers to North Beach include *Azul*, at 1519 Grant Avenue, a smart shop presenting its own designs of 100% cotton clothing for men and women. Another newcomer is *Original Buffalo Wings* at 663 Union specializing in hot and spicy chicken wings. Many question the marketing sense of yet another chicken shop next door or just around the corner from two well-established and well-patronized eateries — *Il Pollaio* and *Gira Polli*. This new fast food spot is the second location for what owners hope will become a chain. The first OBW is in San Rafael.

*Thai Cookery* at 347 Columbus disappeared overnight to become *Ristorante Franchino*, as did troubled Gino Biradelli's *Adolph's* at 641 Vallejo, which is now called *La Romana*. At 745 Columbus, *Sushi Maison* suddenly evolved into a Japanese-owned French restaurant called *Brasserie Tomo*.

Blazing in red neon glory and a site not to be missed, especially at nighttime, is *Brandy Ho's* at 450 Broadway. Given Brandy's excellent track record on Columbus, we can expect the best. Off to a great start across the street is a new revue, *An Evening at La Cage*, a show of female and male celebrity impersonators "starring" Cher, Dionne Warwick, and Shirley MacLaine, among others.

Not to be missed at *Gypsy North Beach*, 353 Columbus, is Simon Dray, an excellent guitarist/singer who performs songs in French infused with Gypsy styling on Friday and Saturday evenings.

The *North Beach Palateers* (673-3228) recently tried the *Green Valley Restaurant* at 510 Green and were delighted to find such a bargain (\$12.75) for such a scrumptious (and

large) meal in this old, family-style place. It's certainly not trendy or California Fresh, but it's excellent, wholesome food for a very decent price.

The *North Beach Fair* is just around the corner and will take place as usual on Father's Day Weekend, June 17-18 on Upper Grant Avenue. Look for woodblock artist *Kristen Wetterhahn* who still has some of her popular posters left from last year's Literary Fair. The poster depicts North Beach poets from Kristen's napkin series drawn while imbibing at *Spec's*. In addition to being quality art posters showcasing Kristen's fine talent, they are a document of North Beach history. Be sure to stop by the *North Beach Chamber of Commerce* booth in the 1400 block of Grant and get your copy of Kristen's poster (only \$5.00). Also for sale will be a new North Beach t-shirt designed by local artist *Howard Munson*.

A sad postscript to the changing North Beach business scene is the sudden departure of *Departments* from 1450 Grant and *Revolution Books* from 1541 Grant. Both stores offered variety and entrepreneurial independence to a beleaguered street in transition. Fortunately, there are still several great spots on Grant including the every popular *North Beach Pizza*, the under-rated *Mo's*, *Mamma Tina's*, *Basta Pasta*, *Quantity Postcards*, *Iacopi Meats*, the prize winning *Italian French Bakery* and the perennial *Caffe Trieste*.

Marsha Garland

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## Membership Report

Thanks to all the THD members who have responded promptly to our annual dues notice, and very special thanks to those of you who added a contribution — large or small. If you have not yet paid, please sit down and write your check now — \$12 per person and \$24 per couple. Please save us the time and expense of sending a reminder notice.

Welcome to the new THD members who have joined since the last Semaphore went to press: Deborah Adams, Fred Allardyce, Judith Barton, Michael Bennett, Harvie Branscomb, Teri Behm Clawson, Gloria Corral, Lamont DeBarbieri, Mary Denton, Katherine Fines, Frances Gendlin, Stanley Gillmar, Henry Heines, Abby Herget, William Langfeld, Wayne LeNoue, Scott Lewis, Mary Mamatos, Michael P. and Maureen M. Merrill, Graham and Patricia Millar, John C. Richardson, Susan Shoemaker, and Wells Whitney.

## Deborah Holley Moves from the Hill

Board Member Deborah Holley left Telegraph Hill at the end of May to move into the new condo she and husband Scott Emblidge bought in the Haight. Deborah has been one of the most active Board members through her work as chair of the Planning & Zoning Committee. The Board thanks Deborah for her many contributions and wishes her the best of luck in her new home.

## In Memoriam

The Semaphore extends condolences to friends and relatives of THD members Vivian Gowans and Al Merrill. They will be missed on our Hill.



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## Local Businesses Join Anti Graffiti Campaign

Last fall, North Beach Neighbors board member Jim Stevens began to combat the local graffiti problem by re-painting the north wall of the Sarah B. Cooper Day Care Center, located off Taylor between Filbert and Greenwich streets. Soon after, he did the same to the gardeners' shed at Michelangelo Playground. He successfully removed the graffiti until the "artists" tired of coming back.

Not content with this success, Jim approached Pierre Chapman about painting the badly graffitied Powell St. wall of the PIP printing store. Once the job was completed, Jim presented Pierre with a small can of paint and told him next time it was his turn. In his usual affable style, he was drafted into the anti graffiti campaign.

Much to everyone's surprise, the first removal problem came when a student from St. Peter's and Paul's injured himself and splattered blood on the wall. Pierre was on the spot with water and a rag to restore the wall's clean look. The following weekend, some "artists" returned to the scene and left their calling cards. This time the paint and brush provided by Jim came in very handy. The wall stayed clean for a few months until the last week in April when Jim stopped by and applied a little more paint. In this fashion a very busy corner in North Beach no longer offends the vision of passers-by.

News of this modest program found its way to the San Remo Hotel, where owners Tom and Robert Field decided to assist. Native San Franciscans and anti-graffiti activists in their own neighborhoods, the Fields decided to help underwrite the cost of the anti graffiti materials. As a result of the Fields' donation, North Beach Neighbors has endorsed a formal anti-graffiti program.

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The commercial district of North Beach is of concern to all neighborhood organizations in the city because it truly serves the entire city with its many attractions. THD, NBN and RHN border this district and work together frequently to address its problems. This effort seems a natural for such cooperation.

Jim would like to hear from anyone who can assist with this anti-graffiti project. As a professional interior painter, he is well-qualified to provide some quickie training for any of you who are rusty with a brush. The effort needs more than one pair of eyes and hands so please give him a call at 928-8111. Those who have no time or are just too bashful to join the painting brigade, can help by complimenting the folks at PIP for thier cooperation, as well as referring visitors in the area to the San Remo Hotel.

Nan McGuire

### Crime Statistics, Telegraph Hill

Type	Feb — April		
	1988	1989	% Change
Homicide	0	0	
Rape	1	1	
Robbery	16	10	
Assault	22	19	
Burglary	38	44	
Theft	71	161	
Auto Theft	43	28	
Other	140	190	
TOTAL	331	453	36.9%
TOTAL MAJOR*	191	263	37.7%

\*Homicide, Rape, Robbery Assault, Burglary, Grand/Petty Theft, Auto Theft, Purse Snatch



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Waiters On Wheels claims to be San Francisco's first and only restaurant-home delivery service. One phone call and you can have your dinner delivered to you at home directly from any restaurant in their guide.

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There are a number of restaurants listed in our vicinity. Semaphore advertiser *Gira Polli* participates as does *Calzone's*, *Great Hunan* and *Lafayette*.

You can receive restaurant and menu guide free by calling 495-2833.

*Lee England*



*Packaging from consumer goods comprises about one third of the nation's trash. Approximately 50 percent of the nation's paper, 8 percent of its steel, 75 percent of its glass, 40 percent of its aluminum, and 30 percent of its plastic are used solely for packaging.*

*The total weight of packaging used by each of us between 1958 and 1971 increased by 44 percent.* S. F. Recycling Guide

## San Francisco Friends of the Urban Forest Urges Planting of Two Million Trees as City's Year 2000 Goal

In an effort to counteract the global greenhouse effect, San Francisco Friends of the Urban Forest, the City's non-profit tree planting organization, issued a call for San Franciscans to help plant two million trees by the year 2000. The appeal calls for planting *one million trees* in the City of San Francisco itself and an additional *one million trees* outside of the city and in other countries.

"Tree planting represents a tangible activity which can help counter global climate changes," stated FUF Board President John C. Hooper. "It represents a contribution rather than a drain on public resources."

FUF has helped neighborhoods, schools, government agencies and the business community plant and care for more than 8000 street trees over the past eight years. But the organization estimates that much more needs to be done.

"When you look at opportunities for street tree plantings, and add to those the urgent need to replant much of the City's aging trees on parklands and open spaces, it is not difficult to envision planting one million trees in San Francisco," continued Hooper.

FUF generally organizes tree plantings on weekends. The basic charge is \$135 a tree. For further information call Clifford Janoff, 543-5000.



*The energy saved from recycling a glass bottle will light a 100 watt bulb for four hours.* S. F. Recycling Center



## Calling All Activists

Fascinated by the inner workings of City Hall?

Interested in seeing how other San Francisco neighborhoods solve their problems?

Willing to interact with the city's key neighborhood advocates?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, you should know about the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN).

Telegraph Hill Dwellers is an active member of CSFN, a city-wide organization that represents 53 neighborhood associations throughout San Francisco.

With the broad overall purpose of preserving

the quality of life in our city, CSFN develops, advocates and lobbies for neighborhood positions at City Hall. The group meets monthly to discuss such crucial topics as affordable housing, maintaining neighborhood character, transportation and parking.

Current issues before the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods are downtown stadium plans, the proposed transit improvement tax and the Mission Bay development.

Both CSFN and Telegraph Hill Dwellers encourage more participation from our neighborhood. If you would like to become involved, contact Sue Cauthen at 391-9737.

*Sue Cauthen*

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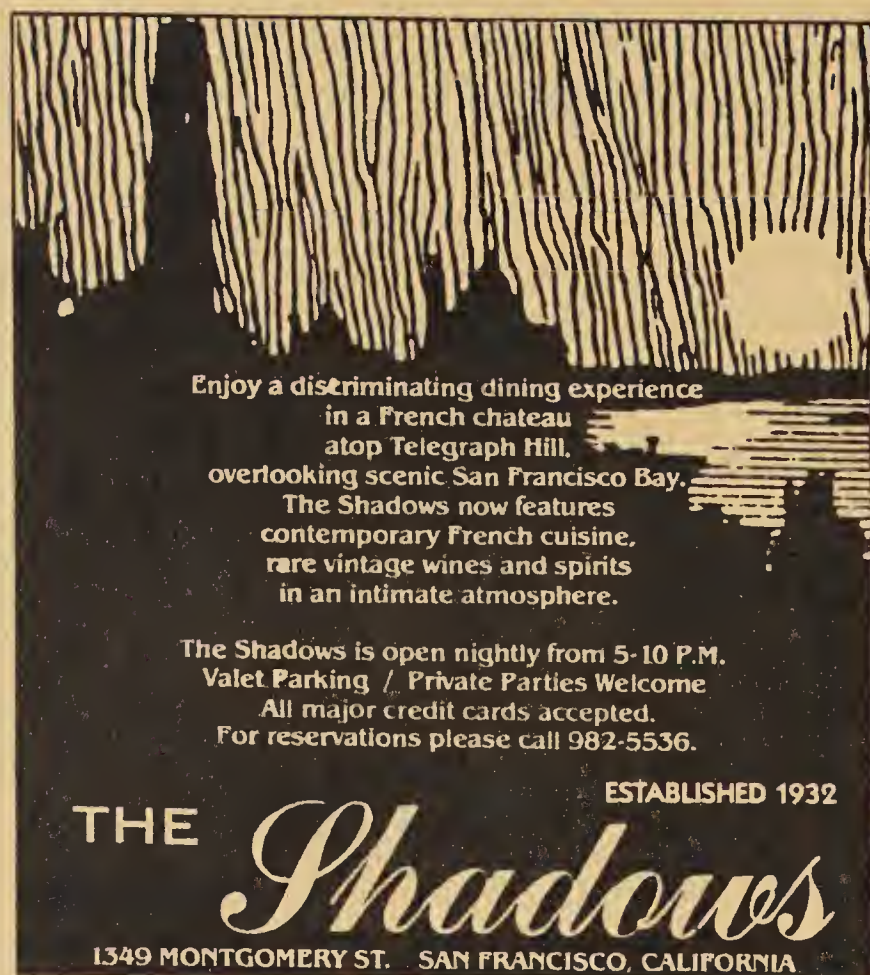
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## Monthly Parking in City-Owned Parking Garages

How often have we tried to make a quick trip to town and have found the city-owned garage we planned to use so full that we circled and circled until a spot became available? THD recently obtained statistics showing the number of transient and monthly parkers in each major city garage.

	Total	Transient	Monthly
Civic Center	840	520	320
Ellis/O'Farrell	760	670	90
Fifth/Mission	1782	1032	750
Golden Gateway	1112	787	325
Japan Center	875	555	320
Lombard Street	205	205	0
Moscone	732	454	278
Arts Garage	612	552	60
Portsmouth Sq.	504	400	104
St. Mary's Sq.	828	378	450
Sutter/Stockton	1865	1842	23
Union Square	1008	940	68
Vallejo Street	163	147	16

The numbers speak for themselves.

*Sheryl Hamlin*

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## Telegraph Hill Bulletin

No. 3

May 1957

*David Myrick, Correspondent*

The By-laws were amended to welcome "Friends of Telegraph Hill" to membership with all rights and benefits except that of voting. It was decided to solicit advertising in the Bulletin to help defray its cost, and this Bulletin included the first mention of the first Telegraph Hill Cookbook.

Mayor Christopher chose its present site for the North Beach Library, subject to the Super-



Supervisors' approval. George Rockrise was chairman of a committee of three to study zoning regulations and protect our 40-foot height limit.

The following is a verbatim quote from David's Bulletin No. 3:

**STREETS:** *On which street do you live? Telegraph Hill, besides the major streets, has 15 short streets, 15 places, 8 alleys, 2 courts, and a single lane, terrace and row. Many streets have had their names changed at least once. For example, Windsor Place was changed from Green Place in 1909 and years before was Bone Alley. Castle Street adopted its present name in 1921, instead of Garibaldi Street, but prior to the change in 1909 it was Vincent Street, and decades before, it was St. Vincent Street. Some of the other changes include:*


- Montague Place - Moulton Place (1909)*
- Edith Street - Church Stret (1892)*
- Reno Place - Reed Place (1909)*
- Columbus Ave. - Montgomery Ave. (1909)*
- Romolo Place - Pinkley Place (1913)*
- Darrell Place - Norton Place (1909)*
- Grant Avenue - Dupont Street (1908)*
- Genoa Place - Filbert Place (1909)*
- Fielding Street - Newell Street (1882)*
- Fresno Street - Hinckley Street (1936)*

*Some short streets have disappeared entirely: Billings Place was on the north side of the 200 block of Filbert. Amity Alley was west of the present Newell Street, between Columbus and Chestnut. Kohler Place was on the south side of the 300 block of Green Street.*



*The Historian*

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## Social Committee News

The Social Committee is formulating plans for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 1989.

The following are tentatively scheduled: New Members Cocktail Party, July 9; General Membership Dinner, August 21; Coit Tower picnic, Sunday, September 24. If anyone decides to make a contribution to the picnic raffle, please contact Gerry Crowley. Location of the cocktail party and membership dinner will be announced by mail.

The San Francisco Symphony has selected Thursday, September 7, as the "All San Francisco Concert" for neighborhood organizations. Tickets are only \$7.00, which makes the event an early sellout. If you are interested in attending, please call Gerry Crowley, 781-4201 or 445-5547, to reserve your tickets. Checks made out to Gerry should be mailed to 1808 Grant, 94133, and be received not later than July 17.

*Gerry Crowley*



## Telegraph Neighborhood Center 99th Annual Fundraising Dinner

Telegraph Neighborhood Center's 99th year gala celebration dinner took place on April 28, 1989, and the following people were honored: Art Agnos for his efforts on the Waterfront; the Citizens Advisory Committee represented by Chris Martin for their diligence in participating in the combined Redevelopment, City Planning Department, Port, DPW efforts to reorganize and improve this area; and the Port Commission represented by Anne Halstead. The Center had special reason this year to celebrate since Denise Hinkle applied for and received a \$100,000 HUD matching grant for 1989. The dinner raised \$15,000.

## Planning & Zoning

### *391 Lombard*

Owner Randy George was granted a permit to expand the back of his house to include two new bedrooms. In addition to this extension (all within the zoning rules which allow covering up to 75% of the lot; leaving 25% open), he plans to build two additional stories over the top of the present house which would go to the 40 ft. height limit. Charles Frankel filed an appeal on the basis that the permit should not have been issued without review because the property was listed as a single family dwelling and technically the building was a two unit building. The Board of Permit Appeals will make an on-site visit on May 22.

### *Rusty Scupper*

Telegraph Landing owners found out lately that the Rusty Scupper has a cabaret permit from a previous application but needs a conditional-use permit for parking (valet parking to 500 spaces in the Vallejo St. garage) and monitoring conditions in the area such as noise. Rusty Scupper corporate owners (who also own Bentley's chain of theme restaurants) plan to run a disco on the premises seven nights a week until 2:00 a.m. Telegraph Landing opposition, led by Fred Allardyce, were told by police that there were no reasons to deny the disco since the cabaret existed and there was no record of complaints about noise coming from the premises. The final appeal will be heard on May 23.

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## Rod Freebairn-Smith

Rod Freebairn-Smith is a long time Bay Area architect, urban planner, teacher, and THD's new president. A Californian, he has lived and worked in the neighborhood since returning in 1964 from work and study in Italy. In the late 1960's he assisted the Mayor's office and Port Commission to identify a workable design for the improvement and beautification of the City's Northern Waterfront. The plan that resulted from three years of meetings was, in his view, worthy, but too modest in its goals and ability to capture the imagination for strong citywide support. He believes that a proper response to public needs, and to the high design standards necessary to achieve a great public waterfront have been weakened by conflicts between overlapping City and Regional bureaus. Undaunted, he continues to work with the Hill Dwellers and with many other groups in the belief that a great esplanade can usefully tie public and private improvements together. That vision includes a wide range of activities along the water's edge, to be enjoyed by San Franciscans and by visitors alike.

In the mid 1970's he initiated a Telegraph Hill plan to build a children's park over a closed and steeply sloping portion of Vallejo Street between Montgomery and Kearny. It was seven years from his first letters proposing the idea to the Mayor until ribbon cutting. Neighbors who helped accomplish the handsome little park recently reviewed the project. They concluded that knowing now how much endurance is required to push a worthy proposal through City Hall, they would not again undertake a similar project. Despite that indictment of our own public agencies, Freebairn-Smith and so many other neighborhood activists, continue to devote whole days and week-ends to the matter of city building at the local level. Freebairn-Smith's current "neighborhood" project assists the Hill Dwellers in their sup-

port of Fisherman's Wharf businesses and residents as they rebuild the fishing industry and spruce-up the surrounding blocks. To be adequately informed, he has visited current fishport and urban waterfront developments in Baltimore, New York, Boston, Vancouver and Seattle. Of necessity, the work in San Francisco has involved economic and environmental recommendations for most of the fishing industry's neighbors including complex relationships between Telegraph Hill, North Beach, Russian Hill, and all those agencies that must be aligned to serve the Waterfront's improvement.

When not working on waterfront matters, Freebairn-Smith has his planning and architectural practice, and assistance to a private San Francisco high school where he is a Trustee. He has also recently served on the Boards of San Francisco's YMCA, the California Crafts Museum, and is currently serving on Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Visiting Committee. He has architectural and planning degrees from both Stanford and M.I.T.

All three of Freebairn-Smith's children were educated at the Urban School of San Francisco before going on to universities and graduate schools. Perhaps seeing the activity as a little glacial in its return of satisfactions, none have followed into urban planning. His son Sutton graduated in Marine Biology from UC Berkeley; daughter Laura from a combination of Vassar, UC Berkeley, and Yale in Political Science, Philosophy, and Business; and his youngest daughter Maria just graduated with honors from Barnard and Columbia in Psychology and Health Sciences. Freebairn-Smith's partner of 18 years, Janet Crane, is also a teaching architect who practices from their offices on Post Street in Union Square. Both might be considered slightly eccentric city dwellers who spurn automobile ownership, walk to work, ride BART and Muni, and admit to the slight contradiction of frequent rentals to service their architectural practice. Beyond an



allegiance to Telegraph Hill, they own property on Russian Hill where they also participate in certain neighborhood projects.

Freebairn-Smith was recently appointed by the mayor to serve on the Port of S.F. Strategic Planning Group. He has projects both in California and other states, continues to write, and less often, to teach. He has taught at UC Berkeley, MIT, UC Pomona, and has been a visiting architectural critic at Stanford, the University of Rome (Italy), and other U.S. colleges. He is also producing an illustrated new edition of Midwest prairie essays by Wallace Stegner. His architectural practice has no recent projects on Telegraph Hill, which brings him a sigh of relief when considering the stringent reviews his own neighborhood gives architectural proposals. Other recent work in his office includes three wineries in Napa, Sonoma, and Santa Clara counties respectively; an alumni building closeby Stanford's Main Quadrangle, a museum on the old Russian settlement on the coast at Fort Ross; a new town center in California's central valley; and numerous residential commissions. In previous years his work has included downtown revitalization plans and urban waterfronts in a number of U.S. cities. His work with one of America's pre-eminent site planners, Kevin Lynch, produced Boston's Historic Waterfront Plan that includes the highly publicized re-use of Faneuil Hall and Quincy Market.

When Freebairn-Smith was a radio actor in Hollywood as a junior high school boy, his father, a producer-director at CBS was among many including of all people, Ronald Reagan, in forming the first performers unions (AFTRA and SAG). Forty years later Freebairn-Smith is still assisting neighborhoods organize around their common interests, seeking architectural and economic improvements for all sectors of the city. The unions may not fair so well today with President Bush, but it is quite possible that Fisherman's Wharf will benefit from the support of the Hill Dwellers, the Wharf Association, and from strongly interested professionals like Rod Freebairn-Smith.

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